

SOUTH SOUND – SKOOKUM INLET FALL CHUM

STOCK STATUS

1992 STATUS

Healthy

2002 STATUS

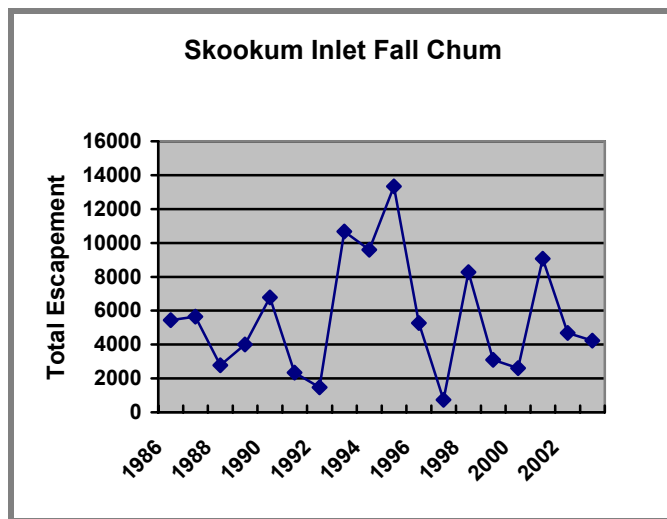
Healthy

STOCK STATUS RATING DATA

USEFULNESS FOR RATING STOCK

STATUS: Good

YEAR	TOTAL ESCAPEMENT
1986	5,449
1987	5,643
1988	2,779
1989	4,010
1990	6,783
1991	2,339
1992	1,476
1993	10,672
1994	9,600
1995	13,334
1996	5,263
1997	740
1998	8,268
1999	3,089
2000	2,601
2001	9,068
2002	4,677
2003	4,235



Data are total escapement estimates based on index counts of live spawners made annually in Little Creek.

Stock status is rated **Healthy** in 2002. The escapements of Skookum Inlet fall chum salmon stock have been generally strong since the mid-1980s.

STOCK DEFINITION

Skookum Inlet fall chum were identified as a stock based on their distinct spawning distribution.

SPAWNING DISTRIBUTION: Most spawning takes place in Skookum Creek and its tributary, Little Creek.

SPAWNING TIMING: Spawning generally occurs from late November through early January.

SOUTH SOUND – SKOOKUM INLET FALL CHUM

GENETIC ANALYSIS: Allozyme analysis has shown Skookum Inlet Fall chum salmon to be closely related to the Elson Creek Hatchery chum stock, which was derived from local wild populations (Phelps et al. 1995).

STOCK ORIGIN

This is probably a **mixed** stock with **wild** production. Elson Creek Hatchery chum releases occurred in this area. Hatchery plants and straying from the Elson Creek facility may have affected the native component of Skookum fall chum creating a mixed stock or may have replaced the native component with an introduced hatchery stock. The Elson Creek Hatchery no longer produces chum salmon.